



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. 10/540,006	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT George Grech	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4623C-083/NPB
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US03/38021		
I.A. FILING DATE 11/26/2003		PRIORITY DATE 11/30/2002

27572  
HARNESSE, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. BOX 828  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303

**CONFIRMATION NO. 6670**  
**371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER**



Date Mailed: 11/26/2007

**NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495**

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is **ACCEPTED** for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

11/14/2006  
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1),  
(c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

11/14/2006  
DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL  
35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** *The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363).* Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/20/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/20/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 06/20/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 06/20/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 11/14/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 06/20/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 06/20/2005

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

TERRY M JOHNSON VESSELS

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 221